# North Pacific Fishery Management Council

James O. Campbell, Chairman Jim H. Branson, Executive Director

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Certified

ames O. Campbel

Chairman

Date

MINUTES

69th Plenary Session
NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
December 10-14, 1985
Anchorage Hilton Hotel
Anchorage, Alaska

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council met December 10-14, 1985 at the Hilton Hotel in Anchorage, Alaska. The Scientific and Statistical Committee began on Sunday, December 8, and the Advisory Panel on Monday, December 9. The Permit Review Committee met Sunday and Monday. During the week the Finance Committee, Advisory Panel Nominating Committee and the Gulf of Alaska Workgroup also met.

Members of the Council, Scientific and Statistical Committee, Advisory Panel and general public in attendance are listed below.

### Council

James O. Campbell, Chairman
Rudy Petersen
Don Collinsworth
Henry Mitchell
Oscar Dyson
Russ Cahill for
Bill Wilkerson
RADM Robert Lucas
Larry Snead/Stetson Tinkham
for the State Department

Robert U. Mace for John Donaldson Robert McVey John Peterson John Harville Sara Hemphill John Winther Jon Nelson for Robert Gilmore

# NPFMC Staff

Jim H. Branson, Executive Director Clarence Pautzke Judy Willoughby Steve Davis Jim Glock Will Barber Ron Miller Ron Rogness Terry Smith Helen Allen Peggy Kircher

# Support Staff

Joe Terry, NMFS-NWAFC Ron Berg, NMFS Craig Hammond, NMFS Pat Travers, NMFS Bill Robinson, NMFS Gary Stauffer, NMFS-NWAFC Loh-Lee Low, NMFS-NWAFC Fred Gaffney, ADF&G Jim Balsiger, NMFS-NWAFC Jim Brooks, NMFS

# Scientific and Statistical Committee

Don Rosenberg, Chairman Bill Aron Douglas Eggers Larry Hreha Tom Northup

Richard Marasco, Vice-Chairman Robert Burgner Don Bevan Scott Marshall

# Advisory Panel

Larry Cotter, Chairman
Bob Alverson, Vice-Chairman
Thorn Smith
Tom Stewart
Ron Hegge
Pete Isleib
Rick Lauber
Don Rawlinson
Cameron Sharick
Richard White
John Woodruff

Terry Baker
Joseph Chimegalrea
Al Burch
Barry Fisher
Oliver Holm
Nancy Munro
Al Osterback
Julie Settle
Walter Smith
Dave Woodruff
Eric Jordan

#### General Public

It was estimated that approximately 250 people attended the Council meeting during its five-day session, including the following:

Clem Tillion, Halibut Cove Joe Erickson, Sunmar Shipping, Inc. Neal Grodon, N.P. Oceans Services Chris Jones, China Nat'l Fisheries Dean Paddock, BB Driftnetters Assn. Nobuko Tokaji, NPLLA Bonar Petersen, Chalice Trlrs David Harville, Koidak Western Trawlers Li Shanxun, China Nat'l Fisheries Don Spencer, Quest Export Trading Co. Tong Jianguo, China Nat'l Fisheries Burton Parker, Kodiak Ron Peterson, Seattle Y.S. Shin, Korean Won Yang Fisheries Phil Chitwood MRCI E.H. Zeaser, Mrs. Paul's Kitchens

Bart Eaton, Seattle Ralph Angason, King Salmon Barry Collier, PSPA D.W. Lerch, MARCO Eileen Cooney, NOAA/OGC Lois DuPey, Int'1 Ocean Oppor. James Nanlon, " Richard Lyon, N. Pacific Corp. Tomasz Pintowski, Polish Embassy Kathleen Lee Alaskan JV Fisheries Ken Wallach, Anchorage Scot E. Land, Anchorage Russ Moore, Unalaska Don Johnson, Anchorage W.T. Pereyra, ProFish Int'1 Ken Lee, Silla American

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Rodger T. Davis, Washington Louis Y. Iani, E.F. Inc. F.G. Baker, AK Dept of Commerce Norman C. Anderson, Seattle Christopher D. Peterson, Seattle Al Geiser, Oregon Dave Olney, Washington Gary Loverich, Washington D.W. Lerch, Marco Int'l Paul MacGregor, Seattle A. Yamastuta, Taiyo Fisehry Co. Lori Hamilton, Washington Joao Vieira, Oregon Bonar Peterson, Seattle Dave Seibel, Oregon Steve Grabacki, Graystar John Zuck, Anchorage Jen-Chyuan Lee, Taiwan Peggy McCalment, Alaska Contact Ronnie Wrenn, Starboard Alaska Mick Stevens, ProFish Int'1 MA Russell, Alaskan Fisheries Co. Stephen B. Johnson, Seattle Steven M. Dickins, JDSTA/HTA Terry Cosgrove, Seattle Ernie Johnson, Eagle River Gill Wilson, Anchorage Lori Hamilton, F/V Muir Doug Turnbull, Seattle U.S. Marine Corp. Patrick Johnston, Seattle Percy Hadley, Oregon Kurt Schelle, CFEC Mark Lundsten, Washington N. Tokaji, NPL (Japan) D.C. Harrison, Anchorage Paul L. Schilling, Anchorage M.K. Lee, Samho Moolsan Spike Jones, Oregon Penni Johnson, Kodiak M. Walker, State of Alaska N. Yasunari, Tokyo J.H. Russell, Alaskan Fisheries Chris Blackburn, Kodiak Daily Mirror Timothy Thomas, Seattle Jack Fill, Kodiak Joe Gnagy, Steuart Fisheries Konrad Uri, Washington R.K. Dearborn, Sea Grant Dennis Petersen, NPVOA Gary Wertman, Washington John Daly, Alaska World Trade

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Kris Poulsen, Seattle A.R. Hauver, Anchorage Brian Kelly, AK Pacific Seafoods John Enge, Anchorage Rob Bellamy, Kodiak Gerald Sanger, USF&WS Mig Thompson, Sitka Steve Ross, Seattle Vern Hall, Kodiak Bernie Burkholder, Kodiak Laura Pillifant, Anchorage Saree Gregory, Fairbanks Cindy Lowry, Greenpeace David Allison, Juneau Tim Keeney, NOAA, GC Bill Young, Anchorage Austin Kibbee, Dutch Harbor Chriss Swaney, Anchorage Times

### A. CALL TO ORDER, APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Jim Campbell called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. on Tuesday, December 10. Chairman Campbell introduced Stetson Tinkham and Larry Snead from the State Dept. Mr. Tinkham will be replacing Ray Arnaudo on the Council. Mr. Campbell also introduced Dr. Charles Broches, aide to Congressman Miller, and John Gissberg, the State Dept's attache in Tokyo.

Jim Branson reviewed the agenda and suggested the Council hear reports on the Japanese and Korean industry-to-industry meetings (found under agenda item C-8 in these minutes). John Peterson expressed concern that "DAP" was not mentioned specifically on the agenda. It was understood that DAP would be discussed when determining groundfish harvest levels apportionments for 1986. The agenda was accepted with these additions.

Bob Mace moved to accept the minutes of the September 1985 Council meeting. Russ Cahill seconded the motion and, there being no objection, it was so ordered.

Jim Branson announced an executive session of the Council for noon on Tuesday to discuss AP nominations.

#### B. SPECIAL REPORTS

# B-1 Executive Director's Report

Mr. Branson reviewed the Executive Director's report in Council notebooks. He told Council members that the level funding for the remainder of the fiscal year is still in doubt. The Council has received 25% of the initial '85 funding pending Congressional action on the FY85 budget. At this level of funding the Council will not be able to forward any liaison funds to Oregon, Washington or Alaska for the first quarter.

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# B-2 Domestic Fisheries Report by ADF&G

The 1985 statewide salmon harvest is estimated at approximately 144.5 million fish, a new record. Since the October 1 opening of the Southeast winter troll fishery, 15,137 chinook have been landed, a higher level than expected because of greater fishing effort.

A total of 2.4 million pounds of Tanner crab have been taken in Cook Inlet since the November 1 opening date. In the Bering Sea the <u>opilio</u> catch is estimated at 0.3 million pounds. The total catch of king crab in the Bering Sea for 1985 is estimated at slightly over 9 million pounds.

### B-3 Foreign Fisheries Report by NMFS

By mid-December foreign fleets in the Gulf of Alaska harvested 37,541 mt of groundfish, including 28,000 mt pollock and 9,000 mt cod. In the Bering Sea and Aleutians the foreign harvest was 933,919 mt, which included 741,228 mt pollock, 48,000 mt cod, 93,000 mt yellowfin sole, 24,000 mt other flatfish and 21,000 mt turbots. By mid-December U.S. industry harvested and processed about 105,000 mt of groundfish off Alaska. Pacific cod accounted for nearly 52,000 mt, pollock for 35,000 mt and sablefish for nearly 15,000 mt.

# B-4 Enforcement and Surveillance Report by U.S. Coast Guard

Through December 1 Coast Guard enforcement effort off Alaska totaled 773 cutter days and 1,996 aircraft patrol hours covering over 7.5 million square miles of ocean. Since their last report to the Council in September Coast Guard efforts have resulted in one vessel seizure, three reports of violation, and six written warnings to foreign fishing vessels.

The Taiwanese processor GOLDEN DRAGON NO. 1 was seized on October 4 near Kodiak after boarding personnel found approximately 55 lbs of processed halibut and 150 lbs of processed and round sablefish secreted in the vessel's freezer holds. The vessel was assessed \$100,000 of which \$10,000 had to be paid before releasing the vessel. The remaining \$75,000 is to be paid in three installments by the end of July 1986. The vessel will not be allowed to leave the FCZ until the full assessment is paid or an irrevocable letter of credit is provided.

The Coast Guard also reported that surveillance flights spotted four Taiwanese gillnet vessels near 47°30'N 160°15'E with salmon being processed on deck. A report with photographs provided to the State Department helped convince the American Institute of Taiwan to develop and enforce a mutually-agreeable high seas gillnet fishery plan prohibiting gillnet vessels from fishing north of 35°N latitude. The Coast Guard made no further sightings of Taiwanese gillnet vessels.

Seven Coast Guard overflights in June and July sighted twelve Japanese gillnet vessels operating outside of agreed-upon areas for the Japanese high seas salmon fishery. Because of bad weather and several vessels covering their hull numbers, identifying the vessels was difficult. However, their description fits very closely the profile of the Japanese landbased salmon

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gillnet vessels. The Cutter JARVIS was diverted to this area but was unable to locate the vessels. Additional flights in late July produced no further sightings. Four flights and eleven cutter days were committed to observe the Japanese mothership gillnet fleet but no infractions were observed.

C130 flights were used last summer to monitor the high seas squid gillnet fleets from Japan, South Korea and Taiwan. Eleven missions were flown and with the exception of the Taiwanese vessels mentioned above and one Korean squid gillnet vessel, all vessels sighted were Japanese. Several were sighted north of the agreed-upon northern boundary for this fishery and some had obscured their hull markings. Photos were taken and forwarded to the State Department. The Coast Guard STORIS was diverted to the area but there was no evidence of salmon being caught or retained on the fifteen Japanese squid gillnet vessels boarded.

# B-5 Joint Venture Wrap-up for 1985

The total joint venture catch off Alaska through mid-December was 879,882 mt. In the Gulf of Alaska joint venture trawlers harvested 237,354 mt pollock, 2,376 mt flatfish, 2,248 mt Pacific cod, and 1,851 mt Atka mackerel. In the Bering Sea and Aleutians, the harvest was 375,922 mt pollock, 171,819 mt flatfish including yellowfin sole, 40,840 mt Pacific cod, and 37,766 mt Atka mackerel.

During 1985 there were 28 different joint venture company arrangements employing over 100 U.S. trawlers off Alaska. This year's joint venture catch increased significantly over previous years: 581,168 mt in 1984; 350,901 mt in 1983; 179,556 mt in 1982; 95,501 mt in 1981; 33,425 mt in 1980 and 1,507 mt in 1979. Joint venture harvests probably will exceed one million metric tons in 1986.

# C. NEW OR CONTINUING BUSINESS

### C-l Legislative Update

There has been no progress on MFCMA reauthorization to date. Congress may abandon efforts to adopt a phase-out amendment, or they may amend purposes provision of the Magnuson Act to state Councils can accomplish phase-out through OY decisions.

# C-2 AP Operations

The AP Nominating Committee recommended that the existing panel be reappointed and fully reviewed next December. They also recommended appointing Rupe Andrews to fill the vacancy created by Bob Hunter's resignation. Henry Mitchell moved to endorse the recommendations of the AP Nominating Committee. Bob Mace seconded the motion and, there being no objection, it was so ordered.

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# C-3 Crab/Salmon Interceptions by Joint Ventures

Thorn Smith, NPVOA, submitted a report of the industry workgroup dealing with crab interceptions in the Bering Sea. The workgroup was unable to agree on one proposal. Several proposals were submitted by the workgroup and during public testimony and Council discussion, several more were identified. There was considerable public testimony on this subject (Appendix I to these minutes).

#### Report of the Advisory Panel

The AP recommended the Council wait until January to decide on how to control king crab interceptions by trawlers in the Bering Sea. However, they felt it is imperative the Council reach a decision then to deal with the conservation problem.

The AP also commented on salmon bycatch during 1985 and felt that regulatory measures were not warranted now; however they recommended closely monitoring joint venture bycatches with a view toward regulatory action if performance deteriorates. They also were concerned with salmon and other prohibited species interception by domestic catcher/processors and felt that an observer programs was warranted.

# Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC received a presentation by the industry workgroup on joint venture crab interception, but had no specific comments.

#### COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Jim Branson indicated that Jerry Reeves, NMFS crab biologist, has said the stocks of red king crab in the pot sanctuary are seriously declining and the Council should consider closing the area to all fishing. Bob McVey pointed out that a Tanner crab opening is scheduled in that area on January 15; if there is a conservation problem it may be necessary to issue a rule-related notice (formerly called field order) closing at least a portion of the area. John Peterson pointed out that the Council has new information on the stocks and some action should be taken. He also noted that encouraging development of underdeveloped fisheries in the area could jeopardize traditional, more valuable and economically productive fisheries.

The Council was provided with a draft of the summarized proposals for public review. Henry Mitchell moved to adopt the proposals for public review, with any necessary editing changes by staff. The motion was seconded by John Winther and, there being no objection, it was so ordered. (The final copy of proposals sent out for public comment is included as Appendix II to these minutes.)

John Peterson moved that the following condition be placed on 1986 permits for joint venture and directed foreign fishing operations for yellowfin sole, flounder, cod and flatfish: that no fishing be permitted in the pot sanctuary in Bristol Bay; that this restriction may be lifted provided the Council

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# C-2 Crob/Scimes laterceptions by doing Captures

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# Report of the Solony lie and Statismical Committee

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adopts a system for reduction or elimination of incidental catch of king crab; and that the restriction prevail if no such system were developed. The motion was seconded by Henry Mitchell and failed, 7-4, with Cahill, Mitchell, Peterson, and Winther in favor.

Pat Travers noted that restrictions should be placed on permits at the beginning of the year as amending issued permits was very cumbersome.

Mr. McVey said he needs Council direction about the Tanner crab season due to open in January. Field order authority would not apply and an emergency order would be necessary. After some discussion and advice from Pat Travers the Council asked the Regional Director to use his discretion on this issue after receiving more status of stocks information from the Northwest & Alaska Fisheries Center.

Fred Gaffney presented a discussion paper on the bycatch of king crab in the Gulf of Alaska and requested Council guidance on how to proceed. It was Council consensus to establish an industry workgroup similar to that for the Bering Sea and to put this issue on the January agenda. Oscar Dyson expressed interest in getting such a workgroup together.

# C-4 Sablefish Hook and Line Fishery in Gulf of Alaska

The Council discussed an offer from NMFS to publish a notice in the Federal Register stating that participation in the Gulf of Alaska hook and line sablefish fishery after September 26, 1985 may not be the basis for participation credit if the council implements limited entry in the fishery at some time in the future.

Public Testimony is included in Appendix I to these minutes.

#### Report of the Advisory Panel

The AP recommended the Council reject the NMFS offer to publish a cut-off date. They recommended that the Council develop a long-range policy regarding fisheries development, allocations and incidental harvests in the groundfish fisheries before giving further considerations to limited entry.

#### COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Council members discussed the ramifications of publishing the cut-off date as offered by NMFS. It was noted that such action would not restrict the Council's options. They could proceed with studying the situation and a limited access program were established, this date, or any other the Council may want, could be used. Nor would this action preclude the Council from establishing a management regime other than limited access for the fishery.

Council members indicated concern over the availability of funds for the studies and public hearings necessary to pursue a limited access program. Mr. Campbell said it would be necessary to contract out any such work. Pat Travers said there would not be a legal with this approach. Council members agreed that some action is necessary in the rapidly growing sablefish fishery,

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# Report of the Advisery Panel

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but that they should instead develop long-term goals for the whole groundfish complex rather than a single species.

John Winther moved to accept NMFS' offer to publish a September 26, 1985 cut-off date for any further credit for entry into the hook and longline sablefish fishery for use in any future limited access program. The motion was seconded by Henry Mitchell and carried 7-4, with Dyson, Mace, Rudy Petersen and John Peterson voting against.

John Peterson suggested that the Council Gulf of Alaska Workgroup be asked to develop a recommendation on how the Council should proceed on this issue; not a limited entry plan or management regime, just guidance on how to proceed now that the date has been approved.

# C-5 Joint Ventures

Public Testimony for this agenda item is found in Appendix I.

### Report of the Permit Review Committee

The Permit Review Committee reviewed joint venture requests estimated from the NMFS survey of industry and from permit applications. Some figures were adjusted after public testimony. The Committee recommended approval of the JVPs shown in Tables A-C in their report (Appendix III) and of all joint venture requests in Table 1 of those minutes, subject to the availability of JVP. The Committee it important that the Council make very clear to all countries that as TALFF decreases the Committee and Council will closely examine how each country satisfies the criteria in the Council's policy on allocations and joint ventures, with particular attention paid to the transfer of capital through investment to U.S. industry, transfer of technology, purchase of U.S. products, and the extent that a foreign country's products compete with U.S. processed products. Violations records also will be important.

During discussions of the Permit Review Committee it was noted that a Portuguese internal waters joint venture for 8,000 mt cod in the Bering Sea/Aleutians was not included in the NMFS survey of JVP. The Committee recommended that JVP estimates be adjusted to indicate this operation.

The Permit Review Committee also reviewed DAP for the Gulf of Alaska and Bering Sea/Aleutians based on the NMFS survey of industry. There was considerable discussion of how to verify the accuracy of the estimates. While no solution was immediately apparent, it was noted that if the annual review of DAP had its own agenda item, industry response may increase and provide more accurate estimates. The Committee adopted the DAP estimates presented in Tables A-C (Appendix III), subject to adjustments in January. The Committee also recommended that NMFS intensify its efforts to improve the DAP reporting system from industry and suggested the Council Chairman appoint a workgroup to assist NMFS in this project.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION for this agenda item will be found under Agenda item C-6.

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### C-6 Foreign Allocations

Public Testimony for this Agenda item is found in Appendix I.

### Report of the Permit Review Committee

The Committee approved the TALFFs shown in Tables B-C, pending Council action, and went on to discuss high seas salmon interceptions by Japan. The Committee was deeply concerned about the lack of progress on reducing the interceptions and felt that a strong message should be sent to the State Department urging resolution of this problem. The Committee recommended that the Council recommend that the State Department withhold any TALFF for Japan until there is satisfactory progress in reducing the high seas interceptions.

The Committee also noted foreign nations fish on pollock and other stocks outside the U.S. FCZ in the "donut" area, that these stocks may frequent the U.S. FCZ, and that information is needed on the approximate composition and tonnage of those catches. It was the consensus of the Committee that the Council request the U.S. Dept. of State to strongly discourage countries from fishing in the international waters of the Bering Sea. They also suggested that foreign nations fishing that area be asked to provide catch statistics.

The Permit Review Committee also reviewed a request from the Highliners Association to attach permit conditions requiring foreign ships, including transports, working in fisheries off Alaska to check in and out of the U.S. zone for an in-port inspection by the U.S. Coast Guard. Admiral Lucas noted that with the present level of funding and manpower the Coast Guard would not be capable of undertaking these new inspection duties. He volunteered to have his Chief of Law Enforcement meet with NMFS law enforcement officers to review the request and respond to the Council in January.

#### COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Council discussion and motions on allocations occurred during discussions of the total harvest figures for both the Gulf of Alaska and Bering Sea/Aleutians and will be found under those agenda items. The following motions were made concerning foreign allocations for 1986:

Henry Mitchell moved to eliminate any TALFF for Poland for 1986. The motion was seconded by Don Collinsworth and carried 7 to 3 with Mace, McVey, Rudy Petersen voting no and Sara Hemphill abstaining. Mark Pedersen was sitting in for Russ Cahill during this vote.

Mark Pedersen moved that Japan receive 77% of the available TALFF in the Bering Sea; Korea, 22%, and the People's Republic of China, 1%. The motion was seconded by Don Collinsworth and carried 9 to 2 with Sara Hemphill and John Peterson voting no. Mark Pedersen was sitting in for Russ Cahill during this vote.

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# C-6 Tornigh Allogation:

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# Depose of the Pareit Pariew Committee

The Committee approved the Tairra shown in Tables N-C, pending Council notion, and went on to discuss bigh seas salmon interceptions by Lapan. The Council terward deemly concerned about tin lack of progress on reducting the interceptions and fair that a street mersage should be seen to the Stote Department unging resolution of this problem. The Council secondarded that the Council recommended that the Council tracement the Status Department withhold pay TAIRR for Japan until there is satisfactory propress to reducing the Aigh seas intercentions.

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Don Collinsworth moved to recommend to the Secretary of State that allocation of TALFF to Japan be withheld until the issue of Japanese interception of salmon is resolved. The motion was seconded by Henry Mitchell and carried unanimously. Jim Brooks was sitting for Bob McVey during this vote and Mark Pedersen was sitting in for Russ Cahill.

### C-7 Foreign Vessel Permit Applications

### Report of the Permit Review Committee

Among the 542 permit applications received for 1986, 36 of the foreign vessels were defined as serious violators according to the Council's policy. The Committee recommended that the Council express its continuing concerns over these serious violations and recommend that sanctions be imposed by the foreign nation involved on skippers and companies involved in repeated violations. The Committee recommended approval of the applications for foreign vessels planning to participate in joint ventures in 1985, contingent upon available JVP. The Committee also reviewed directed fishing permits for four chinese vessels, new to the Alaska FCZ, and recommended approval for those vessels, contingent on there being TALFF available.

#### C-8 Other Business

Clem Tillion reported briefly on the results of the industry-to-industry meetings with Japan. Ron Jensen sent a telegram to be read to the Council. He said that the memorandum of understanding signed this year supports a greater than historic average for Japan's allocation of TALFF. They took this position because of the efforts Japan has made to support the developing U.S. industry. Japan has committed to finance the building of two, large-scale surimi processing plants on shore in Alaska and has committed to purchase increased amounts of U.S.-processed pollock products and to ensure that no viable commercial transaction between the U.S. and Japan be inhibited by import quotas or discriminatory non-tariff trade barriers. He asked that the Council support Japan's TALFF requests.

Wally Pereyra, Al Burch and Greg Baker spoke on the U.S./Korea industry-to-industry agreements. Korean joint ventures increased from 100,000 mt in 1984 to 181,900 mt in 1985, representing \$18 million in exvessel value to American fishermen. The number of Korean companies and U.S. fishing vessels involved in joint ventures increased as did the target species and areas of operation. The following plans for 1986 were agreed upon: (1) Joint venture purchases of U.S.-harvested fish will be 253,000 mt; (2) imports of U.S. fishery products into Korea will be increased by 20%; (3) discussions will be continued on mutually beneficial business relationships between U.S. and Korean partners; and (4) there will be increased purchases of support services in the U.S.

#### D. FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLANS

# D-1 Gulf of Alaska Groundfish FMP

The Council received reports from the Gulf of Alaska Plan Team on the status of stocks in the Gulf of Alaska and the Plan Team's recommendations for ABCs.

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Don Collingworth moved to recommend terthe Secretary of Posts that allocation of CALATT to Japanese intercontrol of CALATT to Japanese intercontrol of CALATT to Japanese intercontrol of Second of the Second of th

# C-7 Torreign Verson Permit Applications

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The Plan Team said they still support a zero-ABC for pollock in the Gulf although the SSC, using a different approach, is suggesting an ABC of 166,600 mt for the Western and Central areas combined (50,000 of this would be designated for a fishery outside the Shelikof Strait area).

Public Testimony for this Agenda item is found in Appendix I.

# Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC reviewed the Plan Team report on the status of Gulf of Alaska groundfish stocks and a report prepared by Natural Resources Consultants on the status of pollock stocks. The SSC agreed with the Plan Team's ABCs for all species except pollock, Pacific ocean perch, and Atka mackerel.

The SSC feels that the harvest level for pollock in Shelikof Strait can be set to allow the 1987 spawning biomass to remain at or above the projected 1986 level, approximately 100,000 mt. It is not clear why the pollock biomass is declining faster than the model projects; either natural mortality is significantly higher than used in the model, or some of the population is not returning to or being detected in the Shelikof Strait. If the resource is being redistributed, then an additional harvest outside Shelikof from January to April could be encouraged. Such a harvest would provide important information on the status of pollock throughout the Gulf. Therefore, the SSC recommended harvesting 50,000 mt outside Shelikof during January-April to allow fishery data collection to make future ABC determinations. pointed out that their recommendation of 100,000 mt ABC for the stocks being surveyed in Shelikof Straits assumes that the 1984 year class is strong. In the Eastern Management area, the SSC felt there would be little risk in harvesting 16,600 mt as in 1985.

In setting OYs for Pacific cod and flounder the SSC recommended that the Council address the incidental catch of halibut and other species.

For the Pacific ocean perch complex, the SSC recommended an ABC of 10,500 mt, distributed to management areas in the same manner used by the Team. Within the complex, POP is depressed and the SSC recommended that the Council take that into consideration in establishing the OY for the species complex. The SSC recommended that in rewriting the Gulf FMP, POP be managed as an individual species.

For Atka mackerel, the SSC recommended an ABC of 4,700 mt for the Western area and bycatch amounts only in the Central and Eastern Areas. For rockfish, Thornyhead and squid, the SSC had no data for setting ABC. (The final SSC minutes are included as Appendix IV.)

# Report of the Advisory Panel

The Advisory Panel recommended adoption of the Plan Team's OYs for pollock, rockfish, Atka mackerel, thornyhead, squid and other species, but recommended OYs of 40,000 mt for Pacific cod and 33,500 mt for flounder. The AP recommended setting the OY for POP at 75% of the Plan Team's recommended ABC of 6,500 mt. The Eastern OY should remain at 875 mt, with the harvest

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emphasis on bycatch. They also recommended the Council continue its rebuilding effort for POP and set OY using past rebuilding schedules. For sablefish, the AP recommended an OY of 15,000 mt distributed as follows: SE/E Yakutat - 23%; W. Yakutat - 17%; Central - 41%; and Western - 19%. The AP was concerned with reports that trawlers may target on sablefish and disrupt the fisheries on other species. They recommended that NMFS issue a public statement that they will manage the fishery in accordance with Amendment 14.

#### COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

The Council began the process of setting ABCs and OYs for the Gulf of Alaska by adopting the SSC's recommendations (See SSC Minutes, Appendix IV) and then making appropriate adjustments. Following are the motions and a brief summary of discussions. (The final table of ABCs, OYs, etc. is found in Appendix V)

Don Collinsworth moved to adopt the SSC's recommendations for ABCs in the Gulf of Alaska for 1986. The motion was seconded by Bob Mace and carried with no objection.

Don Collinsworth moved to adopt the OYs as adopted by the Advisory Panel. The motion was seconded by Henry Mitchell and carried with no objection.

### POLLOCK

Henry Mitchell moved to amend the OY for pollock to increase the OY in the Western/Central Areas by 15,000 mt to be used for DAP needs later in the year. Sara Hemphill seconded the motion. The motion failed 8 to 3 with Hemphill, Mitchell and Rudy Petersen voting in favor.

Henry clarified that his intent was that the 15,000 mt would be in addition to the 100,000 mt proposed and would be for use throughout the year for DAP requirements indicated during public testimony.

John Peterson moved that the OY for pollock be set as follows: 75,000 mt for the Shelikof Strait, to be divided into three equal portions and released on a trimester basis; 75,000 mt outside of Shelikof, of which 50,000 mt is to be harvested by April 10; any remaining outside by April 10 would be forfeited. Russ Cahill seconded the motion. The motion failed, 9 to 2, with John Peterson and Cahill voting in favor. Bob McVey expressed doubt that this process could be implemented by emergency rule; Pat Travers said that any of the options being discussed would require a plan amendment and that emergency regulations could be in place by the first of the year.

Don Collinsworth moved that the Council set the pollock OY as follows: 100,000 mt in the Central/Western Gulf; 50,000 for outside Shelikof to be harvested between January 15 and April 10, and 16,600 mt for the Eastern Gulf with the understanding that the Council would discuss apportioning the 100,000 mt throughout the year so that no more than 100,000 mt mortality would be imposed on the Shelikof spawning stocks. The motion was seconded by Sara Hemphill and carried with no objection.

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Den Collinsworth moved to adopt the SSU's renommendations for ABCo in the Cult. of Alaska for 1936. The motion was seconded by (a) Maca and renor of with no citarion.

Don Collington is moved to edoct the OVs so adouted by the Adries or Papal, The sorter was sorter work with no objection.

# DOTT04

Henry Mitch 11 roved to mand the MY for rollock to increase the ON in the Western Merity after 18,000 mt to be used for DAP reeds later in the year. Sone Hambill accorded the motion. The norion failed 8 to 3 with 1 early 18 with 1 extends in favor.

Henry clarified that his interview ther aber abe 15.000 mt would be in addition to the 100.000 me araposed and would be for use throughout the veed for life requirements indicated during public testimony.

John Pererron coved that the OV for pollock be set as follows: 15,000 mt for the United Strate, to lo divided into thire equal nortions of released on a fusion beauty for the United Strate, or solid to be in the second of the Anglian Strate, or solid to the Strate of the Anglian Strate of the Anglian Strate of the Strate of Strate of the Strate of Strate of

ion. Collinsworth moved that the Council set the policis of as followed 100,000 m. in the Contral Western Culf: 50.000 for outside Shallber to be harvested between the Council South 10,000 mt for the Factors Outh with the understanding that the Council would discuss apportioning the 100,000 or throughout the newsort so that their their so the council of 10,000 mt mortalism usual discussed or the Shallko securing stocks. The council was seconded by fore Beachtill and carried with no objection.

### PACIFIC COD

Henry Mitchell moved to amend the OY for Pacific cod in the Gulf to a total of 100,000 mt to be apportioned as follows: 28,000 mt in the Western Gulf; 56,000 mt in the Central Gulf; and 16,000 mt in the Eastern Gulf. The motion was seconded by Sara Hemphill and failed, 8 to 3, with Dyson, Hemphill and Mitchell in favor. Those against felt this was too large an increase over last year.

Don Collinsworth moved to set the OY for Pacific cod at 75,000 mt, apportioned as follows: 21,000 mt in the Western Gulf; 42,000 mt in the Central Gulf; and 12,000 mt in the Eastern Gulf. The motion was seconded by Henry Mitchell and carried with John Peterson objecting.

# FLOUNDER

Sara Hemphill moved to set the total OY for flounders at 100,000 mt. The motion was seconded by Oscar Dyson, but was subsequently withdrawn. Ms. Hemphill said the reason for the motion was to provide an opportunity for development. John Peterson said that because of the high rates of bycatch in the flounder fishery he could not support this motion. Mr. McVey and other Council members agreed.

John Peterson moved to set the OY for flounder at 25,000 mt. The motion was seconded by John Winther, but subsequently withdrawn.

None of the motions to amend the flounder OY carried; therefore the flounder OY remained the same as presented on the table - 14,380 mt, divided as follows: Western - 5,360 mt; Central- 5,000 mt; Eastern - 4,020 mt.

### PACIFIC OCEAN PERCH

There were no motions to change the OY for Pacific ocean perch, therefore it remained at the level presented - 3,702 mt, divided as follows: Western Gulf - 1,316 mt; Central Gulf - 1,500 mt; Eastern Gulf - 875 mt.

#### SABLEFISH

Oscar Dyson moved to divide the 15,000 mt sablefish OY as follows: 7,500 mt to the Central and Western Area and 7,500 mt to the other areas. The motion was seconded but subsequently withdrawn.

Henry Mitchell moved that the sablefish OY be set at 15,000 mt, but distributed according to the "old" method. This would distribute the OY as follows: Western - 2,820 mt; Central - 5,130 mt; Western Yakutat - 2,745 mt; and E. Yakutat/Southeast - 4,305 mt. The motion was seconded by Bob Mace and failed, 8 to 3, with Campbell, Cahill and Mitchell in favor.

The Sablefish OY remained at 15,000 mt, distributed as follows: Western - 2,850 mt; Central - 6,150 mt; W. Yakutat - 2,550 mt; E. Yakutat - 1,104 mt; S.E. Outside - 2,346 mt.

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### ROCKFISH

Rudy Petersen moved that the OY for rockfish be 5,000 mt. The motion was seconded by Sara Hemphill and carried with no objection. The distribution was to be 600 mt for S.E. Central Outside and 4,400 mt for the remaining Gulf.

### THORNYHEAD, SQUID AND OTHER SPECIES

The Council recommended status quo on these species.

# D-1(b) Review of DAP and JVP for 1986

The Council then reviewed DAP needs for 1986. Public Testimony for all groundfish items is found under Appendix I.

#### Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC evaluated NMFS' industry survey results and final catches for 1984 and 1985. Without projected physical capacity and percent capacity utilization data, the SSC was unable to comment on the estimates. However, they did emphasize that if industry needs were overstated, available fish may go unharvested and result in the loss of potential economic benefits.

### Report of the Advisory Panel

The AP recommended that no JVP be released until July 1, 1986, at which time there would be a fair indication of what the U.S. industry needs. The AP recommended zero TALFF for all species in the Gulf of Alaska for 1986.

#### Report of the Permit Review Committee

The Permit Review Committee was concerned with the accuracy of the DAP estimates in the NMFS survey and suggested that NMFS review their procedures for next year to try to elicit more accurate responses and to cover all parties involved. The Committee suggested increasing pollock DAP by 8,000 mt in the Gulf to account for the Portuguese internal waters joint venture not covered in the survey. They presented a table of suggested DAPs for Council consideration (See Permit Review Committee report, Append- ix III.)

### COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

### DAP Figures

As with the ABCs and OYs, the Council moved to adopt the DAPs presented and then proceeded with adjustments.

### POLLOCK

Henry Mitchell moved to set pollock DAP at 40,000 mt. The motion was seconded by Russ Cahill and carried, 8 to 3, with Campbell, Hemphill and John Peterson voting against.

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The Council ther reviewed LAP needs for 1986. Public Cattmore for all excupdfish items is found arder depending I.

# Counce of the Soinguistic and Stanfablical Committee

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# Report of the Permit Review Committee

The Permit Porties Committee was concerned with the accuracy of the DAP activates in the Hills survey of supposted that MMPC review their procedures for next veer to the collect man accurate accreases and to environ all narries involved. The Committee currented increasing police this by 0,000 mt in the Cult to account for the Porturese internal unters into verture not covered in the survey. They presented a table of current defection (See Permit Portew Committee report, Appended to Tit.)

COUNCED PUSCESSION AND ACTION

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larm Mitchell moved to set milling DAP of AC. 000 mt. The motion was seconded by Turs Cahill and John Peterson worter seatch. Benefit end John Peterson worter seatch.

Sara Hemphill moved that the pollock DAP for outside of Shelikof from January 15 to April 10 be 5,000 mt. The motion was seconded by Henry Mitchell and carried with no objection.

### PACIFIC COD

Henry Mitchell moved to set the DAP for Pacific cod at 20,000 mt. Sara Hemphill seconded the motion which failed 8 to 3, with Hemphill, Mace and Mitchell voting for.

Several Council members said that things are happening so rapidly in this fishery that the Council should give industry the chance to develop it.

Henry Mitchell moved to set the Pacific cod DAP at 30,000 mt. Sara Hemphill seconded the motion which failed, 6 to 5, with Cahill, Dyson, Hemphill, Mace and Mitchell voting for.

Don Collinsworth moved to set the Pacific cod (DAP) at 45,000 mt. Sara Hemphill seconded the motion which carried, 7 to 4, with Dyson, Mitchell, John Peterson and Winther voting against.

Henry Mitchell moved to change the OY for Pacific cod to 35,000 mt. The motion was seconded by Oscar Dyson and carried 8 to 3, with Campbell, John Peterson and Winther voting against.

Bob McVey pointed out that if TALFF is precluded in the Gulf, foreign operations may move to the Bering Sea and possibly interfere with the domestic factory trawlers. Henry Mitchell disagreed; he felt that this action would not interfere with the domestic operations.

#### **FLOUNDERS**

No changes were made in the Flounder DAP figures - 9,384 mt total: 3,252 mt in the Western Gulf; 2,916 mt in the Central Gulf; and 3,216 mt in the Eastern Gulf.

#### PACIFIC OCEAN PERCH

As reflected in the table, the DAP exceeded OY. The OY was set to take into consideration the rebuilding schedule for Sebastes alutus.

Bob McVey moved to set the POP DAP equal to OY - 3,702 mt total. The motion was seconded by Russ Cahill and carried with no objection.

#### SABLEFISH

John Winther moved to set the sablefish DAP equal to OY - 15,000 mt. The motion was seconded by Don Collinsworth and carried with no objection.

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Cara Hemo! !!! moved that the collect PAP for outside of Shelifor for Japuary 15 to Arriv 10 be 5,000 mt. The motion was seconded by Perry Pitchell and carried with no objection.

# PACIFIC CCD

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# PACIFIC OUMAN PERCE

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John Hather morad to set the mablefish DAP ears) to the - 15,000 etc. The

# ATKA MACKEREL

Atka mackerel DAP in the Gulf of Alaska was set at zero.

#### ROCKFISH

Bob Mace moved to set the rockfish DAP equal to OY - 5,000 mt. The motion was seconded by Bob McVev and carried with no objection.

THORNYHEAD, SQUID AND OTHER SPECIES were set at status quo.

See Appendix IV for the approved Gulf of Alaska table for 1986 ABCs, OYs, DAPs, JVPs, DAHs, and TALFFs.

There was considerable discussion about the 20,000 mt pollock reserve in the Western/Central Gulf and how it would be utilized. Council members felt it would be important to protect this reserve for domestic use.

Bob Mace moved to recommend to the Regional Director that he put the 20,000 mt pollock reserve in the DAP at the beginning of the year; if, by mid-year or August, there was a surplus in DAP and NMFS determines there's a need for JVP, then a reapportionment of surplus DAP to JVP could be made. The motion was seconded by Henry Mitchell and, there being no objection, it was so ordered. John Peterson suggested that before any reapportionment is made that NMFS canvass the U.S. industry to be sure there isn't a need; Mr. McVey said that they normally do a second survey in the spring.

The table for DAP figures was adopted as amended with no objection.

Later in the meeting the Council discussed again the release of pollock reserves.

Russ Cahill moved to ask the Regional Director not to release the reserves to DAP until after the roe fishery is completed in order to meet the needs of the domestic industry as they occur. The motion was seconded by Sara Hemphill which carried 6 to 4, with Hemphill, Mitchell, John Peterson and Winther voting against. Mr. Campbell was not present for this vote.

#### JVP Harvest Figures

#### POLLOCK

Sara Hemphill moved to allocate 35,000 mt pollock for JVP outside the Shelikof area and at the same time give direction to the Regional Director to release the reserves to JVP at the beginning of the year. The motion was seconded by Henry Mitchell and carried with no objection.

# ATKC MACKERE:

Atte maciairel DAT in the Gulf of Alceta was set at rero.

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Pob Mace more to set the trackitsh PAT equal to PY - 5.000 mt. The mestan ver saccuded by Pob McVey and courted witch no objection.

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There was considerable discussion about the 20.000 mt hallook vesarro in the Machern/Cantual Gulf and how it would be utilitied. Connail members felt it would be imporbant to protect this was the for desemble use.

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Ten "ellingworth morel to contethe remaining NP figures as presented for direction purposes. The motion was seconded by John Pergesson and corried the modernies.

John Peterson moved that 40,000 mt pollock JVP be released immediately for harvest anytime the joint ventures are ready to begin and that the remaining 60,000 mt be released at the rate of 15,000 mt per quarter. The motion was seconded by Henry Mitchell and failed, 8 to 2, with Collinsworth and John Peterson voting for; Mr. Campbell was not present for the vote.

Sara Hemphill moved that the joint venture roe fishery in Shelikof Strait begin on February 15. The motion was seconded by Oscar Dyson and carried with no objection. Mr. Campbell was not present for the vote. In discussion the motion was clarified that it would apply only to the joint ventures and would not affect the opening of the outside fishery which would occur on January 15.

#### **FLOUNDER**

It was pointed out that the flounder OY doesn't need to be restrained for bycatch reasons now because of the new bycatch mechanism provided for in Amendment 14.

Bob Mace moved that the flounder OY in the Western Gulf be set at 23,000 mt with the corresponding increase in the total flounder OY. The motion was seconded by Sara Hemphill and carried with no objection.

John Peterson moved to reduce the flounder OY in the Central Gulf to 8,000 mt. The motion was seconded by John Winther and failed, 9 to 2, with John Peterson and Winther voting in favor. Mr. Peterson felt this action would reduce TALFF in a fishery where bycatch is a problem.

### ATKA MACKEREL, ROCKFISH, THORNYHEAD, SQUID AND OTHER SPECIES

No changes were made in the table for Atka mackerel, rockfish, thornyhead, squid and other species. It was pointed out that NMFS will insert some numbers into the thornyhead, squid and other species columns for DAP and JVP in support of those fisheries.

Bob Mace moved to adopt the final table of JVP figures as amended. The motion was seconded by Henry Mitchell and carried with no objection.

Steve Davis pointed out that there are two potential TALFFs in the Gulf; one for Pacific cod and one for flounder, both in the Central Gulf. Mr. Davis also reviewed the trawl halibut bycatch estimates based on the OYs and DAP/JVP apportionments. Using the halibut mortality rates suggested by IPHC, the actual mortality limit of 2,000 mt would not be exceeded with the current harvest levels adopted by the Council.

### D-1(c) Set Halibut PSCs

Included in Amendment 14 was a framework procedure for annually setting halibut bycatch limits.

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John Percison haved that 40,000 mt pollock TP to released immediately for horvest and the limit definites are not heatr and that the capabilities of .15,000 mt he released at the rate of .15,000 mt may charter. The rate of .15,000 mt may charter with fall tendenth and John seconded to Hear Micriall and friled. It is ", with fall tendenth and John Moterson within far the capability for Mr. Comphell was not present for the mote.

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Stevs Dards pointed out that there are two perceptial TANNOS in the Gali; or a for Paulific ord and one for Flounday, both in the Carteal Gali. Fr. Dards also cardeaed the trail bolding breatch estimates based on the OTS and FANALUR apportingments. Its in the helibut mortality other apporting augmentation of the balibut mortality of the cartefiate first of 1.000 at rould for be exceeded of the the current actual cardeaeded of the Council.

# D-1(c) Tat Halibut PSCs

Tecluied in Amending a le ver a Brancrei procedure for curtilly setting

# Report of the Advisory Panel

The AP recommended the PSC be equivalent to 2,000 mt of halibut mortality, to be determined during the 1986 season based on established mortality rates by gear type. In the case of foreign longlining and/or domestic trawl operations, if the mortality rate can be shown (based on observer information) to be less than expected, then additional fishing time should be allowed. The AP encouraged conservation and observation.

### Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC felt that the Plan Team's recommended bycatch rate of 0.038 mt of halibut per metric ton of groundfish was a reasonable starting point, but urged the development of halibut bycatch limits based on the appropriate bycatch and mortality rates for each fishery. The SSC also stressed the importance of a domestic observer program for effective monitoring of bycatches in the domestic fisheries. However, recognizing the realities of declining budgets, the SSC urged the Council to explore alternative methods that could be used to implement the program with various industry groups.

#### COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

The Council endorsed the halibut PSC limit of 2,000 mt mortality as provided for in the framework developed in Amendment 14.

John Peterson moved to set the halibut PSC limit for halibut in the Gulf of Alaska at 2,000 mt (mortality) as recommended by the Halibut Commission and the Advisory Panel. The motion was seconded by Bob Mace and carried with no objection.

Based on information on bycatch rates in the bottom trawl fisheries, the halibut PSC was set at 1,885 for the DAP fishery and 322 mt for the JVP fishery.

Henry Mitchell pointed out that the AP had also recommended that during 1986, based on observed incidental harvests and halibut mortality rates observed for different gear groups, the Regional Director allow for additional fishing time if actual mortality was less than expected. It was the consensus of the Council that the motion would include a provision for the Regional Director, on advice of observer coverage and Council staff, to look at increased fishing time where mortality rates are actually lower than those expected.

# D-1(d) Management of zero-TALFF and zero-JVP Species

The discussion and action on this subject occurred during the setting of harvest levels. The Council recommended that an emergency rule be used to provide bycatch amounts of Pacific ocean perch and Other rockfish to joint venture and foreign fisheries as necessary. The amounts needed are to be subtracted from the buffer that exists between the OY and ABC levels for these species.

# Pepert of the Advisory Panel

The AP recommended the PSC be equivalent to 2,000 at of halibut acceptative, to be determined during the 1936 season based on established mortality entes by sear type. It the case of foreign lengthishes and/or domestic treed equivations, if the mortality rate can be shown (based on observant information) to be lose that expected, then additional list indicated acceptable and observations and observations and observations.

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John Peterson moved to ser the belief PTC limit for helflur in the Cult of Alaska at 2,000 mt (contolity) as recommended to the Feldbur Commission and the lottory Panel. The motion was excended by Bob Mace and carried with no objection.

Pased on information on hypontch rates in the buttom type "inberder, the bullbug TEC was set of 1,885 for the DAT itchery and 300 mt for the CTP finhery.

Heren inchell pointed out that the AP had also recommended that during 1985, based on observed incidental hapvests and halibur mortality rate; charaved for different goar groups, the Perional Director allow for additional fibring time of setual mortality was less than expected. It was the conserved of the Council Proceeds a provision for the Testori Proceeds on Edwic of observer coverage and Gound stelf, to look at increase of Pehing on Edwic of observer coverage and Gound stelf, to look at increase of Pehing on Edwic where wortslity races are actually lower than those expected.

# Telfd) Management of zero-"ALTE and gero-"P species

The discussion and action on thic subject cocurred during the recring of converse converse.

# D-1(e) Set OY, DAP, JVP, and TALFF for 1986

These totals were set during discussion and action under item D-1(a) and (b). The table of final figures is included as Appendix V to these minutes.

# Gulf of Alaska FMP Workgroup

Sara Hemphill gave a brief report on the progress of the Council's workgroup on the Gulf of Alaska FMP. The workgroup presented a draft goals statement and objectives for a long-range plan for Gulf of Alaska groundfish. Ms. Hemphill asked Council members to comment directly to her on the goals statement. The workgroup will meet again at the January Council meeting.

### D-2 Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands FMP

# (a) Review status of stocks and set new TACs if appropriate.

Jim Glock presented the Plan Team's recommended changes to the TACs for the Bering Sea/Aleutians area based on new information from INPFC and the NWAFC. The Council was also provided with a summary of public comments received on the preliminary TACs set in September.

The Plan Team recommended that the TAC for the Pacific ocean perch complex be adjusted upward from 1,000 mt to 1,600 mt because it now includes all five species in the POP complex. They also recommended raising the Aleutian Islands TAC for POP from 3,800 mt to 11,250 mt. They recommended the TAC for the "other rockfish" category be revised downward by subtacting the POP complex: Bering Sea TAC - 450 mt, and Aleutians TAC - 1,425 mt. For Sablefish, the Aleutians TAC was revised upwards from 2,625 mt to 4,200 mt based on improved stock status; the Bering Sea TAC was revised downward from 1,875 mt to 1,600 mt. For Pacific cod, the combined TAC was revised upward to 181,900 mt. The combined TAC for yellowfin sole was revised downward to 230,000 mt based on survey information indicating a 30% decline in the biomass.

### Public Testimony for this agenda item is found in Appendix I.

### Report of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

The SSC concurred with the Plan Team's recommendations on EYs for pollock, Pacific cod, yellowfin sole, other flatfish, and Atka mackerel. For Turbot, the SSC recommended managing the two species, separately with an EY of 35,000 mt for Greenland turbot and 20,000 mt for Arrowtooth flounder. For Pacific ocean perch, the SSC felt that in light of the concern for Sebastes Alutus and to maintain consistency with their recommendation to separate S. Alutus in the Gulf plan, they recommended an EY of 10,200 mt for S. Alutus only. Their recommendation for the "other rockfish" category EY (8,900 mt) was adjusted upward to account for the rockfish species removed from the POP category. A summary of the EYs and TACs recommended by the SSC is found in the SSC Minutes (Appendix IV). The SSC recommended that the ABC for the Bering Sea/Aleutians groundfish complex be set at 2.0 million mt and the total

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# neric) Set OY, non, Jun. ead Telles for loss

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# Public Testimony for this accorda item is found in Appendix I.

# Fancer of the Scientific and Statistical Committee

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TAC be set by the Council near the upper end of the OY range of 1.4-2.0 million mt.

#### Report of the Advisory Panel

The Advisory Panel recommended adoption of the SSC's recommended TACs with the exception of pollock, Greenland turbot and Pacific cod. For conservation reasons the AP recommended the TAC for these species be set at 1,100,000 mt for pollock, 22,000 mt for Greenland turbot, and 18,000 mt for Pacific cod. The AP recommended the Council use the NMFS DAP and JVP survey results for working purposes and recommended no foreign directed fishing for Pacific cod in the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands. They also recommended the Council set bycatch rates for fully-utilized DAH species in the Bering Sea at 1985 catch levels. They also recommended that prior to making a decision on separation of TACs for the Bering Sea and Aleutians that further analysis of the impacts be completed.

The AP unanimously approved a motion to request the Council to encourage the foreign fishing operations in the Bering Sea to continue to voluntarily refrain from fishing in the FDZ between June 1 and September 15 during 1986. Existing closures of December 1 through May 31 would be kept in place.

The AP also discussed the issue of foreign nations fishing on pollock and other stocks outside the U.S. FCZ, specifically in the so-called "donut hole." It was noted that these stocks may also move into the U.S. FCZ and that information is needed on the approximate composition and tonnage of that catch. The AP recommended to the Council that a strong message be sent to the Dept. of State to discourage countries from fishing in the international waters of the Bering Sea.

#### COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

After hearing staff, SSC and AP reports, and public testimony the Council adopted the TACs for the Bering Sea recommended by the SSC for discussion purposes.

#### TACs

Bob Mace moved to approve the TACs recommended by the SSC (See SSC Minutes, Appendix VI). The motion was seconded by Russ Cahill and carried with no objection.

Henry Mitchell moved to amend the pollock TAC to 1.3 million mt. Sara Hemphill seconded the motion which failed, 6 to 5, with Collinsworth, Dyson, Hemphill, Mitchell, and R. Petersen voting in favor.

Henry Mitchell moved to approve the division of Greenland turbot and arrowtooth flounder TACs in the Bering Sea with the Greenland turbot TAC set at 22,000 mt and arrowtooth flounder set at 20,000 mt. The motion was seconded by John Winther and carried, 7 to 4, with Cahill, Hemphill, Mace, and R. Petersen voting against.

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### Ferent of the Advisory Papel

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#### COUNTY DISCUSSION AND ACCION

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Forry Mitchell moved to ample the police TAC to 1.2 (Hitchent. Collingor, Prophiliseconded the millor which failed. 6 to 5, with Collingor, Prophilisenthil, Mitchell, and P. Peterser voting in favor.

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Bob Mace moved to set the TAC for Pacific cod at 200,000 mt with any available TALFF restricted to longline only in the Northwest Pribilof Islands. The motion was seconded by John Peterson and failed, 8 to 3, with Cahill, Mace and John Peterson voting in favor.

Sara Hemphill moved to set the TAC for cod at 220,000 mt with the same restrictions, but subsequently withdrew the motion.

Henry Mitchell move to set the TAC for Pacific cod at 229,000 mt. The motion was seconded by Sara Hemphill and carried, 6 to 5, with Campbell, Cahill, Mace, R. Petersen, J. Peterson, and Winther voting against. DAPs

Bob Mace moved to approve the DAP figures presented by the Permit Review Committee. The motion was seconded by John Winther and carried, as amended below, with no objection.

Oscar Dyson moved to amend the motion to move 5,000 mt from the DAP for turbot to the Pacific cod DAO. The motion was seconded by John Peterson and carried with no objection.

#### JVPs

Bob Mace moved to approve the JVP figures presented by the Permit Review Committee. The motion was seconded by John Peterson and carried, as amended below, with no objection.

Don Collinsworth moved to set the Atka mackerel JVP at 30,800 mt. The motion was seconded and carried with no objection.

It was noted that in the Pacific ocean perch, sablefish and Other rockfish categories there was nothing left for bycatch. Staff was instructed to revise these figures for bycatch needs.

A table incorporating Council actions was prepared for review. Mr. Branson noted that the table should be amended to reflect the Chinese request for 13,450 mt yellowfin sole in the Bering Sea rather than the Gulf.

Bob Mace moved to amend the table to reflect this request. The motion was seconded by Don Collinsworth and carried with no objection.

Mr. McVey pointed out that there is no provision for foreign bycatch of Other rockfish or Pacific ocean perch in the Aleutians. Jim Branson suggested that all the turbot surplus be taken out of the Bering Sea and then no bycatch for a foreign turbot fishery would be required in the Aleutians. Mr. McVey also pointed out that this may preclude the Hokuten fleet from targeting on turbot.

Henry Mitchell moved to raise the TAC for Greenland turbot to 28,000 mt. The motion was seconded by Mace and carried with no objection.

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Don Collingworth moved to set the Acha mackerel JVP at 30,000 mt. The motion was seconded and cauried with no objection.

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Henry Mifichell roved co-ration the TAC for Oreerland turbot to 28,000 ms. The mass seconded by Tage and capried with morablection.

Henry Mitchell moved to reduce the squid TAC to 5,000 mt and the Other flatfish TAC to 124,200 mt to bring the total TAC to 2.0 million. The motion was seconded and carried with no objection.

Henry Mitchell moved that bycatch amounts be made available through the year out of reserves if necessary to accommodate the target TALFF fisheries in the Aleutian Islands. Motion seconded by Sara Hemphill and carried with no objection.

Sara Hemphill moved to move 5,000 mt Greenland turbot into JVP. The motion was seconded and carried with no objection.

Sara Hemphill moved to change the OY for Greenland turbot to 33,000 and add the additional 5,000 mt to the JVP column. The motion was seconded by Henry Mitchell. The motion was amended to reduce Other flatfish TAC by 5,000 mt to keep the TAC at 2 million and carried with no objection.

#### **TALFF**

Henry Mitchell moved that the directed foreign trawl fishery for cod in the Bering Sea be restricted to longline only conducted in Areas 1 and 2 north of 55°N latitude and west of 170°W longitude. The motion was seconded by Bob Mace and carried with no objection.

Henry Mitchell moved that the Regional Director be requested to apportion sufficient reserves of cod in the Bering Sea to accommodate foreign trawl bycatch requirements. The motion was seconded by John Winther and carried with no objection.

Bob McVey moved to reinstate the 5,000 mt TAC for Other Flatfish and take it out of the Other Species category to allow for a TALFF for Other Flatfish to enable that fishery to take place The motion was seconded by Sara Hemphill and carried with no objection.

Mr. McVey said he was still concerned with the zero amounts in the Arrowtooth flounder DAP because the target fishery on Greenland turbot is going to take substantial amounts. Bob Mace suggested that the Regional Director use his authority to accommodate this problem using reserves if necessary. It was the consensus of the Council that this was their intent.

A revised Bering Sea table was prepared for the Council later Saturday morning. There was some discussion about making sure there was enough TALFF in the Bering Sea to allow for the foreign longliners' operation.

Don Collinsworth moved to give direction to the Regional Director to remove for the Reserve category and place in the Gulf an additional amount of cod to bring the TALFF allocation in the Gulf to 15,520 mt and the 21,980 mt in the Bering Sea with the trawl bycatch added and then move the remaining 36,426 mt back into the Reserve category. Restrictions in Footnote 3 of the Bering Sea Table would apply. The motion was seconded by John Winther and carried with Rudy Petersen objecting.

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Sara berokill moved to move 5,000 or excepted turber into HTP. The motion was seconded and carried with on objection.

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Henry Mitchell wased that the regional Director be remented to apportion sufficient resource as and in the worder to accomandate foreign train bycatch requirements. The motion was commanded by John Winther and carried with no objection.

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Don Collinsworth moved that both the Gulf of Alaska and Bering Sea tables be approved as amended (See Appendices V and VI). The motion was seconded by John Peterson and carried with no objection.

#### E. CONTRACTS, PROPOSALS AND FINANCIAL REPORTS

Currently, the Council is only supporting one contract, for Groundfish Data Monitoring, from programmatic funds for \$145,000 with ADF&G. The objective of this project is to enhance the ability of ADF&G to provide timely, high quality fisheries catch data from shoreside deliveries of groundfish. The information will be aggregated by ADF&G and input to PacFIN for reporting to state, federal and Council groundfish managers. A progress report was received in September and forwarded for SSC review.

#### Finance Committee Report

The Finance Committee was briefed on the budgets of the Alaska Region and Northwest and Alaska Fisheries Center. The Committee requested Mr. Branson be asked to write a second letter supporting an increase in the Center's funding, with particular emphasis on groundfish stock assessment.

#### COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Don Collinsworth pointed out that there is a critical need for funding for a domestic observer program. He suggested that an outline of needs or a proposal be developed and be send to Congressional delegates to ask that they introduce it for funding with a fiscal note attached. It was decided that Mr. McVey's and Mr. Collinsworth's staff would get together to prepare a proposal.

#### F. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. David Harrison, a Bristol Bay fisherman again stressed the negative impact of the interception of salmon by the Japanese on Western rural Alaskans.

### G. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Campbell adjourned the meeting at 1:55 p.m. on Saturday, December 14.

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#### P. CONTRACTO PROPERTS AND THEAMOUTAL REPORTS

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# Finance Committee Persons

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#### O. APOTOURAMENT

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